

REMARKS

Applicant's attorney does not understand any problem arising from use of "I prefer" in the specification. This language makes it clear that the preference being expressed is applicant's.

The meaning of "vent pumping system" in the original claims is somewhat clouded by mistakes made in FIGS. 3 and 4. The formal drawings submitted with this application correct these mistakes and make FIGS. 3 and 4 correspond with the written descriptions on page 8 of the specification. The mistake in FIG. 3 includes two vent pumps 30, one arranged upstream of vent space 25 and another arranged downstream of vent space 25. The specification, in the first full paragraph on page 8, makes it clear that only the upstream vent pump 30 is intended for FIG. 3. The mistake in FIG. 4 is to omit the vent pump 30, which is mentioned in the second paragraph on page 8, and which is arranged downstream of the vent space in the embodiment of FIG. 4.

No new matter is involved in these corrections, which merely eliminate inconsistencies between the drawings and the written description. With these corrections made, and especially in view of the FIG. 3 embodiment as explained in the first paragraph on page 8, it is clear that the vent space can be vented by a pumping system arranging a pump either upstream or downstream of the vent space. Either way, a vent pump draws in atmospheric air and forces gas through the vent space to entrain and exhaust ozone-containing gas from the vent space. As the Office Action points out in the "statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter", no cited art suggests:

- any admission of air to the vent space
- any vent pump for bringing air into the vent space
- any vent pump arranged for removing air and ozone-containing gas from the vent space
- or any withdrawing of gas from the vent space after completion of ozonization of the reservoir.

The changes to claim 1 clarify the subject matter by including a pump that flows gas through and out of the vent space to accomplish the exhaust of air and ozone-containing gas from the vent space. This clearly distinguishes from the cited art, none of which suggests any vent pumping or any pumping of air and ozone-containing gas from the vent space by a vent pump.

The changes to claim 35 clarify that the vent pumping system includes a pump arranged downstream of a vent space to exhaust ozone-containing gas from the vent space at a subatmospheric pressure. This follows the Office Action's suggestion for allowability and conforms to the Office Action's "statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter".

The subject matter of claim 64 has been found allowable and has been written into claim 57 to make claim 57 allowable. This in turn makes the claims remaining dependent on claim 57 allowable as well.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims 1, 2, 4-63, and 65-73 are respectfully requested. For any question on this response or the application, the Examiner is invited to call applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures

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